

left at least 400 species and subspecies, a larger number than has been recorded from any other State, except California, and nearly three-fourths of the total number of birds known from the Mississippi Valley. This unusually rich avifauna, as Professor Bruner remarks, is due both to the faunal position of Nebraska and to its diversified topography. — F. M. C.

Cory's 'Hunting and Fishing in Florida,' with 'a Key to the Water Birds of the State.'¹ — The strictly ornithological portion of the work, or the 'Key,' consists of pages 133-304, and is limited to a consideration of the Water Birds of Florida, beginning with the Grebes and ending with the Plovers. It is profusely illustrated with process cuts in the text, most of them very effective and pleasing, but a few show that they were made from specimens that were defective in respect to taxidermy. The key proper consists of a cut of the head (and sometimes of other parts, as the foot) of each genus treated with a few lines of text to each species, in which the distinctive characters are emphasized by the use of heavy type, followed by a reference to the page where the bird is later more fully described. What may be called the key proper, with its accompanying cuts and diagrams, occupies about fifty pages, and is followed by a descriptive list of the species, consisting of a brief but apparently sufficient diagnosis of each, and a short paragraph on the character of its occurrence in Florida. Nearly every species mentioned is illustrated with a cut of the head, often of both male and female where the sexes differ, or by a full-length figure, all original and prepared expressly for the present work. Says the author: "In preparing the present Key, I have striven to make it as simple and non-technical as possible, my object being to enable any one totally unfamiliar with birds to identify with comparative ease any species of Florida water-bird." Apparently his effort to make the way easy, even for the novice, should be successful.

Preceding the bird part is a chapter devoted to the snakes of Florida, in the form of a copiously annotated list. There is also an annotated list of the mammals of the State, evidently prepared with much care, in which we note that the Florida panther is characterized as a

Hunting and Fishing in | Florida, | including a | Key to the Water Birds | known to occur in the State. | By | Charles B. Cory. | Curator of the Department of Ornithology in the Field Columbian Museum, Chicago; Fellow of the | Linnæan and Zoölogical Societies of London; Member of the American Ornithologists' | Union; of the British Ornithologists' Union; Honorary Member of the | California Academy of Sciences, etc., etc. | Author of | "The Beautiful and Curious Birds of the World," "The Birds | of the Bahama Islands," "The Birds of Haiti and San | Domingo," "The Birds of the West Indies," "A Naturalist in the Magdalen Islands," etc., etc. | For sale by | Estes & Lauriat, | Boston, Mass. | 1896. Sm. 4to, pp. 304, 2 photogravure plates, and about 200 cuts in the text.

new sub-species, under the name *Felis concolor floridana*. About twenty-five pages are devoted to an account of the Seminole Indians, and about one hundred pages to hunting and fishing in Florida. Various hunting and fishing trips are described, with numerous appropriate illustrations. This portion of the book has an important bearing on many points in natural history, and will doubtless be of special interest to the hunter and tourist. The work is beautifully printed and is altogether an elegant sample of book-making.—J. A. A.

Howe's 'Every Bird.'¹—This is another attempt to render the identification of bird easy, whether the birds be in the bush or in the hand. The scope of the volume is limited to "one hundred and seventy-three species of birds most often met with in New England, and the Appendix contains nearly all other birds known to occur within these states." The text is reduced to a minimum, the author depending largely on the outline drawings of head and foot as an aid to the student. A line or two is given to dates of arrival, distribution (in New England), haunts, and song under each species. About a page of space is allotted to each species, including the cuts. They are divided according to their haunts into 'Woodland Birds,' 'Marsh and Swamp Birds,' 'Beach Birds,' 'Ocean Birds,' etc. The book, however, lacks both a table of contents and an index.—J. A. A.

Artistic and Scientific Taxidermy.²—Any work which will aid in more clearly defining the difference between the art of taxidermy and the trade of taxidermy is to be welcomed. Of manuals containing elementary instructions in 'stuffing' we have had enough. The case of effigies over the drawing-room mantel may serve a decorative purpose, but its maker is no more worthy the name of taxidermist than the caster of plaster images is deserving of the title of sculptor.

¹ "Every Bird" | A Guide to the Identification of | the Birds of Woodland, | Beach and Ocean. | With | one hundred and twenty-four line illustrations | by the author | Reginald Heber Howe, Jr. | [Associate] Member of the American Ornithologists' Union, Member of the Nuttall | Ornithological Club. | Boston : | Bradlee Whidden, | 1896. Sm. Svo, | pp. viii, 192. Price, \$1.00.

² Artistic and Scientific | Taxidermy and Modelling | A Manual of Instruction in the Methods of Pre- | serving and Reproducing the Correct | Form of all Natural Objects | Including a Chapter on | The Modelling of | Foliage | By | Montagu Browne, F. G. S., F. Z. S., etc. | Curator of the Leicester Corporation Museum and Art Gallery ; | Author of 'Practical Taxidermy,' The Vertebrate Animals of Leicestershire | and Rutland, etc. | With 22 Full-page Illustrations and 11 Illustrations in Text | London | Adam and Charles Black 1896. [New York, Macmillan & Co., \$6.50] Svo. pp. viii + 463.